SO ORDERED. SIGNED 3rd day of March, 2025



THIS ORDER HAS BEEN ENTERED ON THE DOCKET. PLEASE SEE DOCKET FOR ENTRY DATE.

Charles M. Walker U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE NASHVILLE DIVISION

IN RE:)
Cummings Manookian, PLLC, Debtor.) Case No: 3:19-bk-07235) Chapter 7) Honorable Charles M.Walker)
Jeanne Ann Burton, Trustee, Plaintiff,))))
v.) Adv. Proc. No: 3:20-ap-90002
Hagh Law PLLC, Afsoon Hagh, Manookian PLLC,)
Defendants.))

ORDER DENYING MOTION TO RESCHEDULE STATUS CONFERENCE

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the late and improperly filed Motion to Reschedule Status Conference ("Motion" - Dkt. #230 - 3:19-bk-07235) filed on behalf of Defendant Manookian PLLC and non-party individual Brian Manookian.

¹ The motion fails to comply with Local Bankruptcy Rule 9075-1 Emergency Orders (EXPEDITED MOTIONS AND ORDERS). Further, the motion – although captioned in the adversary proceeding – was not filed in the above-captioned adversary proceeding.

The Debtor filed for relief under chapter 7 of the Code ² on November 6, 2019. The Complaint in the above-styled adversary proceeding was filed shortly thereafter on January 8, 2020 – that is 5 years, 1 month and 23 days ago. After numerous discovery disputes, hearings, rulings, orders, and appeals, as of the date of this Order, no substantive matters have come before the Court in the adversary proceeding – only discovery and administrative matters.

This Court entered the Order Setting Status Conference for March 5, 2025, and did so 34 days ago on January 28, 2025.³ The Motion was filed this morning and states that counsel for Manookian PLLC⁴ "has a lengthy evidentiary hearing in another case which conflicts with the current setting of March 5, 2025, and another hearing set the morning of the Court's next available docket on March 19, 2025." The Motion does not mention that the evidentiary matter in another court was set on an emergency basis or on short notice to the parties. Nor does this request come as an emergency request, given that it is made a mere 49-1/2 hours prior to the hearing in this Court.⁵ Therefore, it must be due to some failure on counsel's part. Whether that failure be to properly manage his calendar, or to respect this Court and the parties and attorneys involved in this matter, either is unacceptable.

Denial of this motion is warranted given the lack of respect shown this Court and the other parties in waiting until the 11th hour⁶ to request a continuance and the audacity to request a 6-week continuance, at that. Appropriate considerations for such a request at this juncture would

² 11 U.S.C. § 101 ff. Any reference to "Code" or "section" or "Chapter" is a reference to the Bankruptcy Code unless another reference is stated.

³ See Dkt. #228 in the main bankruptcy case and #246 in this adversary matter.

⁴ The motion also references that counsel represents Mr. Manookian in another case for an evidentiary hearing conflicting with the relevant hearing herein. However, Mr. Manookian is not a party to these proceedings, therefore, whether counsel represents him is not relevant to this issue.

⁵ See Local Bankruptcy Rule 9015

⁶ By waiting until the "eleventh hour," the court of appeals found that the defendant had "bushwhacked" the plaintiff[,]" *Angelopoulos v. Keystone Orthopedic Specialists, S.C.*, No. 12-CV-5836, 2017 WL 2445130, at *1 (N.D. Ill. June 6, 2017).

be an emergency matter in another court, a health issue, or a safety concern. Nothing of that nature or any other has been offered to legitimize counsel's waiting until the very last minute to request the matter be moved and moved considerably. This is offensive, unprofessional, and inconsiderate. It is also tiresome, at this point.

Therefore, for those reasons, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion is DENIED.

THIS ORDER WAS SIGNED AND ENTERED ELECTRONICALLY AS INDICATED AT THE TOP OF THE FIRST PAGE.